

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please find accompanying this response three new drawing sheets including added Figs. 12-15. The new figures are explained in the Remarks below.

REMARKS

Claims 1-42 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 6-8, 11, 13 and 14 are rejected. Claims 2-5, 9, 10, 12, 15 and 16 are objected to. New claims 17-42 are added. Claims 1-3, 7-11, and 13-15 are amended herein .

DRAWING AMENDMENTS

Figs. 12-15 are added on two new drawing sheets.

Fig. 12 schematically illustrates in block diagram format the lubricant supply unit body 7 including a sensor 50. This is supported by original claim 9 and the original specification at page 9, lines 9-13. The specification is amended at pages 12 and 23 to include a brief description of the figure and text referring to the figure in the detailed description

Fig. 13 schematically illustrates in block diagram format the lubricant supply unit body 7 mounted on an outer circumference of the inner ring 1. This is supported by original claim 11 and the original specification in the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9. The specification is amended at pages 12 and 24 to include a brief description of the figure and text referring to the figure in the detailed description.

Fig. 14 schematically illustrates in block diagram format the lubricant storing tank 8 detachably mounted on an outside surface the seal ring 5. This is supported by original claim 14 and the original specification at page 9, lines 12-15. The specification is amended at pages 12 and 24 to include a brief description of the figure and text referring to the figure in the detailed description.

Fig. 15 schematically illustrates in block diagram format the sensor 50 mounted on either the inner or outer rings 1(2) and a control device 55 receiving

input from the sensor 50. This is supported by original claim 15 reciting a controlling means and the original specification in the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10. The specification is amended at pages 12 and 24 to include a brief description of the figure and text referring to the figure in the detailed description.

DRAWING OBJECTIONS

The Examiner objects to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. It is stated that the drawings do not show features according to claims 9, 11, 14 and 15. Please find accompanying this amendment proposed drawings to be added in the form of new Figs 12-15 which address each of the claim features referred to in the Office Action as detailed above in the Drawing Amendments portion of the remarks. No new matter is added since the features of the new drawings are clearly supported by the specification and the above noted claims and the drawings are in schematic block diagram format merely representing the configurations described in the text of the specification and the noted original claims. In view of this addition, reconsideration of the objection to the drawings and withdrawal thereof are earnestly solicited.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 11 and 14 are rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The Office Action cites various informalities in the claim language including awkward wording and lack of antecedent bases. The Office

Action further indicates that the claims contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if amended to overcome the §112, second paragraph rejection.

Claim 11 is amended to remove the imprecise recitation that the race member is a bearing. Claim 14 is amended to remove the conflict regarding placement of the lubricant storing tank. Claims 11 and 14 are further amended to stand in independent form including proper antecedent basis for the elements recited in original claims 11 and 14 without reciting other elements from claims 1 and 7 deemed unnecessary to distinguish over the art. Since the basic feature of the lubricant supply unit body being detachably attached is retained in the case of claim 11, and the detachable mounting of the lubricant storage tank is retained in claim 14, reconsideration of the rejection of claims 11 and 13 and their allowance are earnestly requested as this feature is not found in the applied art.

Claim 13 is rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention as a result of recitation of “miniature.” The claim is amended to remove the recitation noted in the Office Action. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejection of the claim 13 and its allowance are earnestly requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1 and 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated either by the Rohre reference or the Gallant reference. Applicant herein respectfully traverses these rejections. “Anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, *arranged as in the claim.*” *Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist & Derrick Co.*, 221 USPQ 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984) (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that the cited reference is deficient with regard to the following.

Claim 1 is amended to recite that a nozzle is attached to the pump and disposed between oppose faces of the raceway members. This configuration is not found in either the Rohre reference or the Gallant reference as each reference lacks disclosure of a nozzle. The Rohre reference discloses slinger rings which sling lubricant back onto bearing elements while Gallant reference discloses an impeller which moves lubricant inward toward the bearing elements.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 6-8 particularly describe and distinctly claim elements not disclosed in the cited reference. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1 and 6-8 and their allowance are respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER OBJECTIONS AND NEW CLAIMS

New independent claims 19, 28, 31, and 34 each recite the “lubricant supply unit body being detachably attached to a vicinity of a shoulder portion of the inner circumferential face of said outer ring or a vicinity of a shoulder portion of the outer circumferential face of said inner ring.” This feature is also recited in claim 11 which was indicated as having allowable subject matter. In view of this and the lack of a similar disclosure in the applied references, allowance of claims 19, 28, 31, and 34 is earnestly solicited.

New independent claim 20 recites that a nozzle is attached to the pump. This feature is not found in the applied references.

New independent claim 24 recites a control circuit is part of the lubricant supply unit body. This feature is not found in the applied references and is similar to the controlling means related in claim 15 indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

New independent claim 35 recites a pump detachably attached to the bearing device. This feature is not found in the applied references.

The remaining new dependent claims 17, 18, 21-23, 25-27, 29, 30, 32, 33, and 36-42 are submitted as patentable for the subject matter recited therein in addition to the subject matter of the claims they respectively depend from.

CLAIM FEES

Twenty two claims in excess of twenty are added. Seven independent claims in excess of three are added. Accordingly, please charge the fee of \$2500.00 to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicant respectfully requests a three month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. Please charge the fee of \$1020 for the extension of time to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

If there is any discrepancy between the fee(s) due and the fee payment authorized the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) or fee(s) deficiency or credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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enc: New drawing sheets of Figs. 12-15.